



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Iaqua Buttes Fire Lookout Station - Facilities Demolition		
PROJECT LOCATION	SW1/4 of Section 6, T3N, R3E HBM N 40°-40'-09" by W 123°-52'-57"	COUNTY	Humboldt
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Ernie Rohl, Division Chief		
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE's Humboldt-Del Norte Unit Headquarters 118 Fortuna Boulevard, Fortuna, CA 95540	PHONE	(707) 726-1254

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves the formal closure and abandonment of an existing State Fire Lookout facility, termination of the lease with BLM which allows the facility to operate on federal lands, relinquishment of the State's road maintenance responsibilities, and the deconstruction/demolition, removal, and disposal of the existing Lookout tower, associated outbuilding materials, and above-ground propane tank. Any debris containing hazardous materials will be properly handled, and shipped to an appropriate disposal facility in accordance with all applicable regulations. The Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office, has stipulated that concrete building foundations, and existing concrete walkways, may be left intact on site.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: § 15301 (I)(1),(4) Demolition and Removal of Existing Small Structures
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

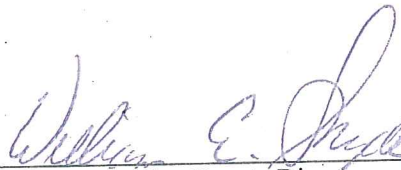
REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits within the description for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption to CEQA pertaining to demolition and removal of small structures. CEQA Guidelines §15300.2(f) prohibit use of a Categorical Exemption for projects resulting in substantial adverse change to a historical resource. As discussed in detail within the Environmental Review Report which accompanies this NOE, the Department has programmatically mitigated the impacts from demolition of its significant historical buildings through a program of compensatory mitigation. Therefore this project will not result in substantial adverse change and the Exception does not preclude the use of an NOE. Field review and research by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no other exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project.

The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Humboldt Del-Norte Unit Headquarters, 118 Fortuna Boulevard, Fortuna, CA 95540.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date

5/31/11